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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/062,484	02/05/2002	Ching-Chuan Hsieh	0941-0401P-SP	2817

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EXAMINER

FIELDS, COURTNEY D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2137

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/062,484	Applicant(s) HSIEH ET AL.	
	Examiner Courtney D. Fields	Art Unit 2137	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 November 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-2,4-5,9, and 12-16 have been amended.
2. Claims 1-16 are pending.

Priority

3. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection, Fang et al. (US Patent No. 6,240,512).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 1 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

7. Claims 1 and 9 are deemed indefinite because it is unclear to the Examiner how "a new sign-on information is related to successfully signs on to the application program server after signing on to the application program server". Please clarify.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bones et al. (Pub No. 2002/0078386) in view of Fang et al. (US Patent No. 6,240,512).

Referring to the rejection of claims 1 and 9, Bones et al. discloses a single sign-on system and method for a sign-on process to remotely operate an application program via a network, the single sign-on system comprising:

an application program server for saving the application program, at least one client computer connected to the application program server via the network, each of which receives sign-on information, operating the application program by signing on to the application program server with the sign-on information (See page 2, Section 0022)

a single sign-on server connected to the client computer, the single sign-on server for receiving and saving the sign-on information to the client computer when the client computer signs on the application program server (See page 2, Section 0024)

and updating the sign-on information saved in the single sign-on server by sending the sign-on information to the single sign-on server (See page 5, Section 0059)

However, Bones et al. fail to explicitly disclose sending new sign-on information which successfully signs on to the application program server after signing on to the application program server. As per claims 1 and 9, Fang et al. discloses a method and

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apparatus for implementing a single sign-on mechanism that coordinates logons in a distributed computer network. Fang et al. further discloses within the single sign-on mechanism, information used to sign on to applications are kept in two separate databases. The first database is the PKM (Personal Key Manager) which keeps user configuration information. The second database is the CIM (Configuration Information Manager which is a local database that provides single sign-on support for each client machine. (See Column 5, lines 14-27) The personal key manager enables a single sign-on user to manage all the passwords the user possesses in a secure environment. This allows the user's single sign-on information to be pre-saved for each application within the PKM database. Using a GUI interface, the user creates a target (user ID) which corresponds to the real target to which a user can logon, allowing the user to create as many or as few targets. The single sign-on framework within a PKM application programming interface allows the user to create a new target, update to a target's data, query a target's information, and delete an existing target. (See Column 5, lines 43-56) Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Bones et al.'s single-sign on method with Fang et al.'s single-sign on master key mechanism. Motivation for such an implementation would enable the user's pre-saved sign-on information (storing target logon) to automatically sign on to a application program because the single sign-on mechanism securely retrieves all the passwords for a user and automatically issues a new sign-on to each system/application the user is authorized to access (See Column 2, lines 32-40).

Referring to the rejection of claims 2 and 10, (Bones et al. as modified) discloses the claimed limitation wherein the client computer comprises:

an application program module for signing on to the application program server with the sign-on information and operating the application program and a single sign-on module for receiving the sign-on information from the single sign-on server, sending the sign-on information to the application program module (See Bones, page 2, Section 0022)

and sending the new sign-on information to the single sign-on server computer when the application program module signs on to the application program server (See Fang et al., Column 5, lines 43-56)

Referring to the rejection of claims 3 and 11, (Bones et al. as modified) discloses the claimed limitation wherein the application program module further comprises a window-based interface (See Bones et al., page 3, Section 0028, page 4, Section 0044))

Referring to the rejection of claims 4 and 12, (Bones et al. as modified) discloses the claimed limitation wherein the new sign-on information comprises a sign-on password (See Fang et al., Column 6, lines 43-56)

Referring to the rejection of claims 5 and 13, (Bones et al. as modified) discloses the claimed limitation wherein the new sign-on information comprises a sign-on account (See Fang et al., Column 7, lines 29-42)

Referring to the rejection of claims 6 and 14, (Bones et al. as modified) discloses the claimed limitation wherein the network is a private network (See Bones et al., page 2, Section 0023)

Referring to the rejection of claims 7 and 15, (Bones et al. as modified) discloses the claimed limitation wherein the network is a local area network (LAN) (See Bones et al., page 2, Section 0023)

Referring to the rejection of claims 8 and 16, (Bones et al. as modified) discloses the claimed limitation wherein the network is a wide area network (WAN) (See Bones et al., page 2, Section 0023)

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Courtney D. Fields whose telephone number is 571-272-3871. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs. 6:00 - 4:00 pm; off every Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

cd

cdf
February 20, 2006

Matthew Smithers
MATTHEW SMITHERS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Art Unit 2137